

BARBER COUNTY INDEX.

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Official Paper of Barber County.

The city of San Francisco again elected a Union Labor Mayor last week. The common people of the coast city know a thing or two about politics and seem to be doing their own thinking.

THE unprecedented triumph of Geo. B. McClellan in New York has made him a strong presidential possibility on the Democratic ticket. He is a son of the General of Civil war fame.

HANNAISM is still supreme in Ohio and the President took occasion to get in the band wagon early. The American people will never hear again that the President and Senator Hanna are at outs. Marcus is Boss I of the G. O. P. and will be the ruler as long as he so elects.

BEFORE the county campaign opens we confidently expect to see the "organ" undertake the laborious task of figuring it out that the Democratic commissioners of Barber county are responsible for the 600 useless employees who drew \$3 per day and perquisites during the legislative session of 1903.

REPUBLICAN papers are busy these days in explaining that the present numerous business failures are not resultant from the Roosevelt administration. They say "the market has been glutted with securities" which brings the trouble. They had an altogether different name for it when Cleveland was president. Presto change.

MARYLAND went strongly democratic, both legislatively and gubernatorially. The state will elect a Democratic senator to succeed McComas, republican. The administration was making a strong effort to carry that state in order to vindicate Roosevelt's negro policy, but it resulted in immense Democratic gains.

THE accumulated dividends paid in the United States since January 1, 1903 amount to \$900,000,000.00. This does not include the high salaries and other favors distributed by trusts and corporations. It simply represents so much profit on inflated values. Every producer and every consumer helped to make that donation. No man is poor enough to be exempt from this damnable system of indirect taxation. It seems queer that intelligent people will keep voting for it.

FRANK DOSTER, ex chief justice of the Kansas supreme court, and a reformer since the early days of the state, said in an interview at Topeka last week that he differed with Populists who prefer Rooseveltism to Clevelandism. He says between the two he would take Cleveland, not because Cleveland would do anything for the people, but because he is not as completely owned and managed by other men as is Roosevelt, and because you always know where to find Grover and you never know where to find Teddy. He suggested that because he was now employed by the Mo. P. railway company it might be said that he has changed front on his reform ideas. This he denies. He says he is as much a reformer now as before, and by no means a Cleveland man, but if he had to choose between the two he would take Cleveland.

It requires an inordinate imagination and unlimited gall to charge our present increased taxes to the democratic Board of county commissioners and nobody save and alone the quill pusher of the "organ" would attempt it. In the face of the fact that the state Board of Equalization raised our valuation and also the rate of taxation, no man who is posted on the situation will attempt to censure the county commissioners. In county affairs the "organ" also fails to include in its reckoning the unparalleled expense for which our republican county attorney is responsible. It is the first paper in Kansas that has tried to figure out that the increased rate of taxation is a fault of the Democrats. It does seem that nothing is too inconsistent for some so-called editors to tackle. It is on a par with the proposition advanced last spring that a quarter section of land in the gyp hills should be taxed as high as the best quarter in Sharon Valley.

MUZZLE HIM!

State Senator F. Dumont Smith is liable to be bogged, muzzled, read out of the "grand old party" and banished from American soil by the republican machine if he is not careful. Recently he went to Pennsylvania to visit the scenes of his native state, and last week he wrote a letter to a Kansas friend. The following paragraph is a part of that letter:

"It is just a little jarring on a good Kansas Republican who desires to 'stand pat' with Hanna to go to the sanctum of protection and see who gets the protection. It is just a little wearying to contemplate 'infant industries' like the Edgar Thompson Steel works and other Carnegie properties that we have nursed and cradled and reflect that they are still demanding the present high duties at the expense, in some cases, of our Kansas farmers. These same works are selling steel in every quarter of the globe, underselling every competitor, England and Germany with their cheap labor, but the tariff wall enables them to keep the price up to the home consumer. It is time it came down a bit. The infant industry business is becoming a joke. The revision of the tariff by its friends, must come, or as sure as fate it will be revised by its enemies."

BRISTOW'S REPORT HELD UP.

The Kansas City Journal, in its telegraphic news under date of Washington, Nov. 1, has the following concerning the postoffice scandal report, which was held up until after the state elections. Coming from a republican source, and being sound in logic regardless of the political views of the writer, it is worth reproducing:

"The president's withholding of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow's report is causing a great deal of indignation because it is becoming clear that his purpose is to keep the findings of the fourth assistant from the public until after Tuesday's elections. When the Bristow report was submitted it was ready for publication because every fact set out in it, every charge and innuendo, and every conclusion, were known to the postmaster general and the president and in a general way to other members of the cabinet. Before Mr. Bristow began to write his report he consulted Mr. Payne about it, and also the president, and had received from both, if not positive instructions, at least much advice regarding the scope and character of the document.

"The amazing attitude of the president thereafter, in withholding the report, ostensibly upon the ground that it is necessary for the attorney general to review it, is subjecting the president to severe criticism. He has made it clear ever since he came to Washington that he is prepared to play politics on a large or small scale on every and all occasions when he feels that his own political friends were at stake. In spite of his constant posing as a public benefactor, reformer and idealist, he has not overlooked a single opportunity to aid his own cause, and certainly none to prevent criticism and exhortation of that cause."

THE Hutchinson News pleads for a continuance of the Leland Albright machine on the ground that this machine managed the last three elections successfully. Admitting, for the sake of argument, that the work of this machine was of large importance, let us see what can be found on the other side of the ledger. The members of this political ring have taken for themselves the best offices they could find. They have set up the doctrine that no Republican in the state who refuses to vote in the conventions as they shall dictate is in good standing or entitled to the slightest consideration. At the last session of the Kansas legislature they perpetrated a scandal in rewarding their strikers and heelers such as no other state in the Union has ever paralleled. They have dominated the legislature and increased the expenditures until in six years the state tax has practically been doubled. In rewarding their heelers they have been extravagant with the people's money, increasing the sums for state purposes by more than \$1,000,000 in five years. They have rapidly swung the state into the list of commonwealths that are ruled by bosses, and they have been guilty of most of the indefensible acts which good politics must condemn.—K. C. Journal. Rep.

THE republican majorities in every state an election was held last week were reduced, and in some instances entirely wiped out, notwithstanding that the power of the national administration was invoked in each and every instance. Is it possible that the people are at last waking up to the fact that the trusts and the republican machine are playing havoc with them?

REFUSE TO HONOR REQUISITION PAPERS.

Gov. Bailey, of Kansas, refused to honor requisition papers from the Gov. of Oklahoma for one James W. Seaver, whom it is alleged was the cause of the death of Frank Elgin, an inmate of the territorial insane asylum at Norman, on Oct. 11, by beating him over the head. Seaver was the attendant. It is stated that Seaver's father who resides at Paola, Kans., is one of Gov. Bailey's main stays, as is also Attorney Thomas, who is Seaver's counsel and resides at Paola, Kans. The telegraphic report states that this had nothing to do with the Gov. refusing to honor the requisition papers. Of course not. But no doubt many of our readers well remember how the Governor of Indiana is protecting one of Goebel's slayers, and this looks like a republican trick of the same character.—Woodward Dispatch.

DUNN and Bradstreet report more failures than the country ever experienced, this all, not excluding the panicky times under Clevelandism. What's wrong!

NEBRASKA is republican "just so you can notice it." The majority, however, is only half what it was a year ago. In another year the people of that state may find a way out of political darkness.

THE depreciation in cattle values in Barber county, according to cattlemen who are posted, since this time last year, is at least \$300,000.00. The decline came to pass before New York and Maryland went democratic, too.

WITH the advance in coal and an other adulteration of oil it will not be long until old John Rockefeller can make another donation to some of the so-called charitable and religious institutions. It never occurs to a majority of the people that they are being taxed to raise these funds.

NEARLY every week the "organ" contains little insinuations against the Kiowa News Review, but it hasn't the courage to come out boldly and express itself in plain terms so that the editor of the News-Review can get a whack at the machine editor. In this, the "organ" uses good judgment. It is a good way to save epidermis.

KENTUCKY's Democratic majority was increased from 3500 to 15000 at the election last week. The murder of Gov. Goebel did the work, and the action of republican officials in other states in shielding the principal murderer is adding fuel to the flames of public indignation. But for this act, it is quite probable that Kentucky would still be in the republican column.

A LITTLE thing that is causing much comment is the attempt of the President, through his Secretary, Mr. Loeb, to ape the airs of the foreign courts. He is having his White House messengers clothed in uniform, and the report is that the ushers and doorkeepers at the executive offices will be the next to don the uniform prescribed by Secretary Loeb, with the tacit approval of President Roosevelt. As they outrank the messenger, the uniform is to be cut in more fashionable style, and the other officials of the White House are to be more brilliantly attired so that the social function will match the gorgeousness of any foreign court. The White House will be made to blaze with all the glory and frippery and tinsel and gaudy display of the flunkies of European effete monarchies. These be Republican times surely, and the people foot the bill.

It is noticeable that in many parts of the western hemisphere there are numerous republicans who are shedding crocodile tears on account of the Democratic land-slide in New York. They say the city has gone to the "demonstration bow-wow" and that thieves and looters are in the saddle—that Tammany will even lay old Satan himself in the shade for downright coarseness to be carried on under the next administration. But when they turn to Ohio, all to them, is lovely when they contemplate that Mark Hanna, the steel trust, the coal trust, the ship subsidy, and combined wealth sit triumphantly on the throne. How sweet the thought! What a palatable dish after drinking the bitter gregs from the New York political cap! What hypocrisy! This paper is not a great admirer of Tammany. Tammany is not faultless, but so far as the American people are affected, the Tammany crowd are saints compared with the Hanna crowd. Hannaism affects all the people—north, east, south and west. Tammany affects New York City only. We think it is in order for our horror stricken republican friends to first cast out the beam before weeping about the mote.

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THE special session of congress convened on Monday and Joe Cannon was formally made speaker as previously arranged.

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